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MIDDLEWICH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health



for the year ended December 31st
. . . 1957 . . .

MIDDLEWICH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

HEALTH REPORT FOR 1957

To the Chairman and Members of the Middlewich Urban District Council :

Mr. Chairman, Madam, and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the following statement of essential matters affecting the Public Health of the Town during the year 1957.

SECTION A STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area	1,956 acres
Population — Registrar-General's latest estimate of population	6,880
Number of inhabited houses (end 1957)	2,106
Rateable Value (1957)	£61,201
Sum represented by a penny rate (1957)	£244

The following extracts from vital statistics of the year relate to net births and deaths after correction for inward and outward transfers by the Registrar-General.

	Total	M	F
Live Births—Legitimate	121	51	70
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population			17.58
After adjustment by the Comparability Factor			17.40
	Total	M	F
Still Births—Legitimate	3	1	2
Illegitimate	1	1	—
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births			32
	Total	M	F
Deaths	74	36	38
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population			10.75
After adjustment by the Comparability Factor			12.79
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—			
All infants per 1,000 live births			24.79
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			24.79
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births			—
Deaths from Cancer (all ages, including of the lung)			11
„ „ Diphtheria			—
„ „ Whooping Cough			—
„ „ Influenza			1
„ „ Pneumonia			2

The following table compares the main statistics for 1957 with the years 1946—1956.

Year		Population	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infants Death Rate	No. of Deaths from Cancer	No. of Deaths from Tuberculosis
1946	...	6,206	21.10	9.82	22.90	8	2
1947	...	6,372	27.46	11.45	40.00	11	3
1948	...	6,576	19.60	9.12	23.81	10	1
1949	...	6,587	14.70	9.41	10.30	10	3
1950	...	6,672	17.38	11.99	51.72	9	1
1951	...	6,696	16.27	11.49	27.52	14	1
1952	...	6,798	15.59	10.58	18.86	14	—
1953	...	6,813	16.87	10.86	—	23	1
1954	...	6,840	14.32	10.67	30.61	16	—
1955	...	6,830	13.61	11.42	10.75	15	—
1956	...	6,880	14.53	11.19	10.00	15	—
1957	...	6,880	17.58	10.75	24.79	11	—

CAUSES OF DEATH — 1957

(Taken from the Registrar-General's Tables)

								M.	F.	Total
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
2.	Tuberculosis, other forms of	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infection	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	6
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1

16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...					7	8	15
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...			8	8	16
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...				1	1	2
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	...		6	7	13
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...			2	—	2
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	..	—	2	2
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	..	—	1	1
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...					—	1	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...				—	—	—
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...				—	—	—
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...			—	—	—
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...			—	—	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...				—	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...			—	—	—
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...					1	3	4
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...			1	—	1
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	...		—	—	—
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...				—	—	—
TOTAL								36	38	74

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

for the Area

(A) Provided by the District Council

(1) Staff—

W. S. Slater, M.B.,CH.B. M.R.C.S.,L.R.C.P.,D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health Hartford Hill Darwin Street Northwich, Cheshire	(Services shared with the other three Mid- Cheshire Districts and the County Council).
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Clerical Staff	1 Person (whole time)	(Services shared with the other three Mid- Cheshire Districts).
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F. Costello, A.R.SAN.I. Cert. S.I.B., Cert. Insp. of Meat and other Foods	Whole-time Public Health Inspector Victoria Buildings Lewin Street Middlewich	(Middlewich Urban District only)
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(2) Laboratory Facilities—

The Public Health Laboratory Services in Manchester, which are provided free of charge to the Middlewich Urban District Council, proved adequate during the year. In addition, this service has co-operated in the free transport of samples from this area. Details of the samples are given later in this report.

(3) Environmental Services—

Details of the other services, e.g., Public Health and Housing Inspections, Food examination, etc., etc., provided by the Middlewich Urban District Council, are recorded later in this report.

(B) General Hospital Services

(i) Infectious Diseases

Admissions of cases of Infectious Diseases are now spread over the following hospitals : Warrington Isolation Hospital, Monsall Fever Hospital, Crewe Isolation Hospital and Macclesfield Hospital. To which hospitals our cases go depends largely upon the preference of the patient's doctor, and of course, on the availability of hospital beds.

(ii) General Hospital Services

Towards the end of the year a Joint Mid-Cheshire Committee comprising representatives of all four Mid-Cheshire Authorities and interested local Medical Practitioners, was formed with a view to expediting as far as possible the provision of a General Hospital to serve the Mid-Cheshire area, thereby reducing the many inconveniences experienced by both patients and relatives when hospital accommodation has to be sought as far away as in the Chester, Liverpool, Warrington, Manchester and Crewe Hospitals. At the time of writing, July 1958, it appears that the Manchester Regional Hospital Board fully appreciates the urgent needs of this area and will help as far as is within their power.

(C) Provided by the County Council

The Cheshire County Council have officers discharging duties in the Middlewich Urban Area under the following services :

School Medical, Maternity and Child Welfare including Milk Food Sales, Tuberculosis, School Dental, Health Visiting, Weights and Measures Inspection, Specialist Services, e.g.,

Orthopaedic, Ophthalmic, Paediatric, Home and Domiciliary Midwifery Services, Speech Therapy, Residential and Temporary Accommodation, under the County Welfare Services, etc., etc.

In addition, the Mid-Cheshire Divisional Health Committee (under the auspices of the County Council) provided the following services :

(a) Vaccination against Poliomyelitis—

The Scheme, as commenced during May, 1956, was extended and in spite of some delay due to shortage of vaccine, good progress was made. The enthusiasm shown by local parents to have their children protected is particularly keen and, given regular supplies, it is expected that quite a high percentage of children in the appropriate age groups will have completed their course of protection by late 1958.

By the end of the year 1957, approximately 336 Middlewich Urban children had completed their treatment.

(b) Sitting Case Car and Ambulance Service

The service in the area continued to deal with Middlewich Urban patients expeditiously and without serious complaint throughout the year.

(c) Prevention of Illness — Care and After-Care

Nursing requisities and after-care equipment were loaned for the use of the sick and needy in a number of homes during the year.

(d) Domestic Help Service

The service continues to expand year by year and is undoubtedly one of the best means whereby the older people can remain longer in their own home surroundings. Institutional accommodation, however excellent, is for most elderly people but a poor substitute for their own homes.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

The Town's Public Water Supply continued to be maintained in a satisfactory condition during the year. All houses in the district are now supplied from the mains and there are no stand-pipes, the houses having their own water taps.

Seven bacteriological reports on the town's supply have been furnished to me by the Engineer and Manager of the Mid- and South-East Cheshire Water Board, all of which proved to be satisfactory.

In addition, four samples of water taken by the Health Department and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination were reported upon satisfactorily.

The Council's Public Health Inspector reports :

“Closet Accommodation :

Five pail closets were converted to the water carriage system during the year, leaving 25 pails and 3 privies still in use. All other houses have a separate water closet.”

“Refuse Collection and Disposal :

Refuse collection is by one 9 cubic yard Shelvoke and Drewry vehicle which although continuing to give good service is more than eleven years old and totally inadequate. With the growth of new housing estates on the outskirts of the district at the furthest point possible from the refuse tip, much time was lost in the motor journeying to the tip. Consequently collections were delayed and varied from 13 to 19 days between visits. In September, the Council agreed to purchase out of loan a larger vehicle of the 18 cubic yard type with fore and aft tipper, and a scheme was submitted for a weekly collection of refuse. At the end of the year, loan sanction had not been obtained. All refuse is disposed of at the Croxton Tip, and same was maintained in a satisfactory condition.

Informal notices were complied with for the renewal of 156 dustbins.

Income from the sale of salvage amounted to £827/9/2. Almost 106 tons of waste paper were sold, which gives a figure of 50% above the National average for towns of under ten thousand population.”

“Camping Sites :

There are no camping sites or moveable dwellings licensed in the district.”

“Destruction of Rats and Mice :

The Council employs a rodent operative under supervision of the Public Health Inspector. There is insufficient work to warrant his services full-time, so he works part-time on other duties, Rodent Control taking priority.

During the year all Business and Private Premises were inspected and treatment given as required. Dwellinghouses are treated free of charge. All infestations were of a minor character. A 10

per cent test baiting of the sewers showed them to be free from infestation. All factories and business premises have agreed to treatments being given, as required, and charges to be made.”

“ **Smoke Abatement :**

Progress continued and much work was carried out at various works. The campaign begun several years ago is now showing benefit and the progress can be shown as follows : Automatic Stokers fitted to boilers at Messrs. Pochins, British Crepe and Messrs. J. Steventons. The Lancashire Boiler at Messrs. Murgatroyd’s closed down and electricity substituted. Automatic stokers fitted to all salt pans at Messrs. Murgatroyds. The Lancashire Boiler at Messrs. H. Seddon & Sons, Pepper Street Works closed down and electricity substituted. Automatic stokers fitted to all covered salt pans at Messrs. Seddons Works at Pepper Street, Wych-House Lane and Brooks Lane. With the coming into force of the Clean Air Act all works where salt is made in pans (other than the vacuum process) come under the control of the Alkali Inspector, with whom such works are registered.”

“ **Fire Escape Certificates :**

Three factories had their fire escape certificates amended and brought up to date during the year.”

“ **Petroleum Storage :**

Twenty-one licences were issued for the bulk storage of petroleum spirit.”

“ **Pet Animals Act, 1951 :**

There are no Pet Shops licensed in the district.”

FACTORIES INSPECTION

1. Inspections for purposes of provision as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	No. on Register	No. of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	—	—	—	—
... ..	33	21	2	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers’ premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	33	21	2	—

2. Cases in which defects were found :

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temp. (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	2	2	—	2	—
(c) Not sep. for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	2	2	—	2	—

Outwork—nil.

SECTION D HOUSING

Provision of New Houses :

During the year eight permanent houses have been completed by the Council. No houses were erected by private enterprise.

Five Year Slum Clearance Programme :

Representations were made under the Housing Act, 1957 in respect of Nos. 40, 42 and 44 Lewin Street, No. 62 St. Anne's Road, Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 Manor Lane and Nos. 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13 and 15 Leas Passage. An undertaking to demolish was accepted by the Council in respect of No. 40 Lewin Street and the tenant was re-housed by the Council. Demolition Orders were made on Nos. 42 and 44 Lewin Street, No. 62 St. Anne's Road, Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 Manor Lane. An undertaking to demolish when vacant was accepted by the Council in respect of Nos. 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11 Leas Passage and the Council agreed to purchase the site when cleared for the sum of £150 with a view to re-development, as a site for Old Folks Bungalows. Nos. 13 and 15 Leas Passage were purchased for £100 and these houses will be used as temporary accommodation with subsequent demolition and erection of Old Folks Bungalows on the site. Negotiations were still pending at

the end of the year with regard to Nos. 54 and 56 Lewin Street, with the Ministry of Transport and the County Council with a view to demolition and a widening of the highway. No. 54 was represented in 1956 and the tenant re-housed. A flat known as No. 2 Pepper Street upon which an informal closing order had been agreed, was satisfactorily re-conditioned and brought back into occupation.

Rent Act, 1957 :

One application was received for a Certificate of Disrepair but the necessary repairs were effected before such certificate could be issued.

Housing Notices complied with :

Defective drains repaired	8
Repairs to roofs and spouting	12
Repairs to floors	9
Repairs to defective closets	13
New windows fixed	3
Repairs to doors	2
Dustbins renewed	156
Renewal of firegrates	2

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Milk—

Two dealers are licensed in respect of Pasteurised, Sterilised and T.T. Milks, but one of these dealers merely uses his premises as a distribution depot. Another Company was issued with Supplementary Licences for the retailing of Pasteurised, Sterilised and T.T. Milks.

During the year. 20 samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, with the following results :

Grade	Methvlene Blue Test		Phosphatase Test	
	Satis.	Unsatis.	Satis.	Unsatis.
Pasteurised	10	—	10	—
Tuberculin-Tested	2	1	—	—
Ungraded	2	2	—	—
T.T. Pasteurised ...	2	—	2	—
Sterilised	1	—	—	—

The dealers concerned are always informed of these results satisfactory or otherwise. Where unsatisfactory reports have been received in each case further investigation has been carried out with the result that subsequent samples have been shown to comply with the standard required.

Four samples were submitted to the Laboratory for examination for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli, all with negative results.

(b) Meat—

Under this heading the Public Health Inspector reports as follows :

There is no Public Abattoir in the district. During the year he made 404 visits on 231 days to inspect 3031 cattle, 2110 calves, 1134 pigs and 227 sheep and lambs at the three licensed slaughterhouses. Two of the slaughterhouses are used mainly in connection with the wholesale and manufacturing trade. All were maintained in a cleanly condition. As in previous years, 100% meat inspection was achieved and again it is pleasing to record that despite the very large quantities of meat being distributed to other districts, not one complaint was received during the year from any other Authority. Mr. T. Baines, Senior Public Health Inspector, Northwich U.D.C. deputised for a fortnight at meat inspecting during holidays. Since many of the cattle slaughtered are for manufacturing purposes, they are aged animals which gives a higher percentage of condemnations. A total of 158 cattle, 12 calves, 9 pigs and 9 sheep were condemned, together with much offal for the following reasons :

Cattle Condemned—

Tuberculosis (Generalised)	...	...	...	...	...	85
Oedema (Generalised)	...	...	...	...	...	26
Extensive Bruising	...	...	...	...	...	12
Emaciation	...	...	...	...	...	11
Acute Septic Pericarditis	...	...	...	...	...	2
Insufficiently Bled	...	...	...	...	...	2
Septicaemia	...	...	...	...	...	7
Cysticercosis	...	...	...	...	...	8
Anaemia	...	...	...	...	...	2
Multiple Abscesses	...	...	...	...	...	2
Multiple Tumours	...	...	...	...	...	1

TOTAL ... 158

Sheep Condemned—

Fevered	...	...	...	...	...	3
Insufficiently Bled	...	...	...	...	...	2
Oedema	...	...	...	...	...	2
Septicaemia	...	...	...	...	...	1
Multiple Abscesses	...	...	...	...	...	1

TOTAL ... 9

Calves Condemned—

Joint-ill	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Insufficiently Bled	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Immaturity	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Septicaemia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Oedema	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
TOTAL									12

Pigs Condemned—

Septicaemia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Fevered	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Gangrene	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Insufficiently Bled	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
TOTAL									9

In addition to the foregoing whole carcasses, the following parts and offal were also condemned :

Parts Cattle (Tuberculosis)—

Forequarters	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
Briskets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Heads and Tongues	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	235
Lungs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	388
Livers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32

Other Diseases (Parts Cattle)—

Bruising	...	...	...	...	...	...	forequarters	4
Bruising	...	...	...	...	...	...	hindquarters	6
Heads (Actinomycosis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Heads (Abscesses)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Livers (Angioma)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	378
Livers (Distomatosis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	316
Livers (Abscesses)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Livers (Cystic)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Livers (Necrosis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Livers (Melanosis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Livers (Cirrhosis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Kidneys (Nephritic)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	113

Parts Pigs (Tuberculosis)—

Heads	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Livers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

Other Diseases (Parts Pigs)—

Plucks (Parasitic)	3
Kidneys (Cystic)	4

Parts Sheep—

Plucks (Parasitic)	4
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**Table of Carcases and Offal
Inspected and Condemned in whole or in part**

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	73	2958	2110	227	1134	—
Number inspected	73	2958	2110	227	1134	—
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</i>						
Whole carcases condemned	6	59	11	9	8	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	781	—	4	5	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	8.22%	28.4%	.52%	5.99%	1.14%	—
<i>Tuberculosis only:</i>						
Whole carcases condemned	2	83	1	—	1	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	405	—	—	5	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	6.85%	16.5%	.05%	—	.53%	—
<i>Cysticercosis:</i>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	8	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with cysticerci	—	.27%	—	—	—	—

(c) Disposal of Unsound Food :

Condemned meat at slaughterhouses is stained green and allowed to be sold for animal feeding stuff. Condemned tinned foods, etc., from shops are collected by Council workmen and disposed of on the refuse tip.

(d) Shops :

Condemnation notes were issued in respect of 18 lbs. beef sausages, 15 lbs. pork sausages, 59 lbs. tinned boiled ham, 13 lbs. cake, 21 lbs. tinned pork, 7 lbs. tinned tongue, 23 tins tomatoes, 25 tins beans, 8 tins apricots, 8 tins steak, 6 tins cherries, 4 tins pears, 2 tins corned beef, 4 tins beans and 1 tin apples.

(e) Ice Cream :

There is no ice cream manufactured in the district and the only ice cream sold is wrapped or in tubs, cartons, etc.

9 samples of ice cream taken in the Middlewich Urban District proved satisfactory.

(f) Food Premises :

The under-mentioned food premises are in existence in the Middlewich area :

Butchers Shops	8
Bakehouses	6
Licensed Slaughterhouses	3
Fish and Chip Shops	4
Fresh Fish Shops (A number of grocers, etc., also sell frozen fish)	1
Chocolates and Sweets	8
Grocery Shops (Many grocers also sell some greengrocery and sweets)	32
Greengrocers (Most greengrocers also sell some grocery)	7
Distributive Depot catering for confectioners ...	1
Chemists Shops	2
Public Houses	14
Clubs and Licensed Bars	4
Off Licences for sale of wines, etc.	3

Registered under Section 16 Food and Drugs Act, 1955

For retail sale of wrapped ice cream	23
For retail sale of sausages, meat pies, etc.	15
Dairies registered under Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949-54	2

All bakehouses are regularly inspected and are maintained in a satisfactory condition. The provision of sinks, wash-basins and hot water were carried out at five food premises.

In addition, the following, based upon a statement by the County Council Weights and Measures Inspectors, is a summary of other samples obtained in the Middlewich Urban District during the year 1957—

Nature of sample	Number obtained	Number adulterated or not up to the recognised standard of quality
Cod Liver Oil	2	1
Flour (Plain)	2	—
Garden Mint in Vinegar	1	—
Jam (Raspberry)	1	—
Milk (Fresh)	32	2
Phenacetin Compound Tablets ...	1	—
Salmon Spread	1	—
Sulphur and Yeast Tablets	1	1
TOTAL	41	4

Particulars of Non-Standard Samples

Sample	Analysis	Remarks
Sulphur and Yeast Tablets	Deficient in sulphur to the extent of 17.3 per cent of the amount declared.	Manufacturer cautioned
Milk	Genuine but abnormal milk deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 1.1%	No action
Milk (Channel Islands) ...	Channel Isles, milk deficient in milk-fat to the extent of 5%	Producer cautioned
Cod Liver Oil	Deficient in Vit. A	Seller cautioned Deterioration due to long storage in shop

SECTION F

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases

(1) The incidence of Infectious Diseases was low during 1957, as may be gathered from the following table—

Scarlet Fever	3 cases
*Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	1 case
Measles	1 case

*The one case of Poliomyelitis was a local child aged 5 years who, after in-patient treatment at Monsall Hospital, Manchester, made a satisfactory recovery.

Copies of reports on all pathological specimens submitted by the local doctors to the Manchester Public Health Laboratory are received by me. These are of great value in that immediate preventive measures can be put in hand by the Health Department.

(2) Tuberculosis :

The table below details the ages of both new cases and deaths from both forms of Tuberculosis—

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory M	F	Non- Respiratory M	F	Respiratory M	F	Non- Respiratory M	F
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25 years	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
25—35 years	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—

During the year four pulmonary cases were admitted to and three discharged from hospital.

Number of patients on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the years—

1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
48	43	46	44	45	27	29	28	37	30	30	29

(3) B.C.G. Protection against Tuberculosis :

In addition to the B.C.G. Protection against tuberculosis as carried out at the local Chest Clinic on actual contacts to cases of tuberculosis and the vaccination of new-born babies at the St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester, the parents of school children of the 12-13 years age group in the area are still being offered this form of protective treatment. The response on the part of the parents to take advantage of this treatment for their children has been good, as may be gathered from the following—

No. of Consents issued	124
No. of Consents returned	110
No. of Refusals	14
No. of children found NOT to need B.C.G. ...	45
No. of children found to need B.C.G.	65

(4) Mass Radiography :

The Manchester Regional Hospital Board Mass Radiography Unit visited Middlewich for the third time from the 11th to the 24th September, 1957. The Medical Director comments—

“1 The total number examined increased by about twenty-five per cent, the factory/office group showing 20% and the general public group 80% increase respectively.

- 2 Four cases of pulmonary tuberculosis requiring treatment or close observation were discovered, giving an incidence rate of 1.7 per 1000 examinees. No cases were found in 1952 and only one in 1950. There were 15 cases of healed or inactive tuberculosis.
3. Among other abnormalities, it is of interest that there were two cases of pneumoconiosis, one of carcinoma bronchus and five cases of acquired heart disease.

All the abnormal cases were referred to their own doctors, the majority for further investigations at the Chest Clinic or hospital. Thanks should be extended to all the physicians and surgeons concerned and particularly Dr. Fleming and his chest team for their help and co-operation in dealing with the majority of these new cases.

In conclusion, the Unit would like to place on record its thanks to the Middlewich Urban District Council, the Divisional Medical Officer of Health, Dr. W. S. Slater, Clerk of the Council and his staff, for their close co-operation during the survey, and to Imperial Chemical Industries Limited, Middlewich, for allowing the Unit to use the Scouts' Hall for the examination of members of the public, school-children, etc."

(5) Disinfection and Disinfestation :

Seven houses were disinfected after infectious diseases and four houses were treated for infestation by bed bugs. In addition, a swarm of bees which had gathered in the cavity wall of a Council House were destroyed by fumigation after efforts had been made to collect them.

I would like to say in closing this report how much I appreciate the help I have received from the members of the Council and Officials in dealing with the various matters which have arisen during the year.

W. S. SLATER, M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

July, 1958

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